

1988, shortly before the Berlin Wall came down, SA Cloonan deployed to East Berlin in support of a sensitive Resource and Technology Protection (RTP) espionage investigation. SA Cloonan recalls most vividly those anxious minutes passing through "Check Point Charley." In December 1989, SA Cloonan transferred to NCIS Field Office (NCISFO) Norfolk and was detailed to US Atlantic Command as the Deputy CI Staff Officer. While in that position, SA Cloonan coordinated the force protection support to Operation Uphold Democracy, the US/UN Operation in Haiti.

SA Cloonan was promoted in 1995 and assigned as the Resident Agent in Charge (RAC) at NCISRA London, UK. Under his leadership, NCISRA London received wide recognition for its collection on terrorism in the UK. In coordination with Scotland Yard, SA Cloonan and the late SA Tom Marzilli provided significant high value information concerning Al Qaeda Networks operating within the UK and Europe to the Intelligence Community.

In July 1999, SA Cloonan transferred back to NCISFO Norfolk as the acting Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) for CI and was promoted in September 2001. At that time, SA Cloonan was the NCIS Senior Representative to FBI Headquarters and his first day was September 10, 2001. Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, SA Cloonan played a key role for the Department of Defense in the FBI's Special Information Operations Center (SIOC) and the follow on PENTTBOM investigation. SA Cloonan was a plank owner with the new National Joint Terrorism Task Force (NJTTF) and launched the NCIS' Joint Terrorism Task Force and Force Protection Detachment (FPD) programs.

In January 2004, SA Cloonan was promoted to GS-15 and assigned as the Counterintelligence Support Officer (CISO) to US Pacific Command in Hawaii. SA Cloonan orchestrated the CI/FP support to Joint Task Force Provide Promise, the US response to the devastating 2005 Tsunami in Banda Aceh, Indonesia.

In August 2008, SA Cloonan returned to NCIS Headquarters as the Deputy Assistant Director (DAD), Counterintelligence Program Direction.

SA Cloonan plans to remain in the Washington, DC area with his family. After taking some well deserved time off from working, SA Cloonan will continue to serve his country working for the National Geospatial Agency (NGA) as a CI advisor.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking SA Cloonan for his 33 years of outstanding public service and to wish him fair winds and following seas as he begins the next chapter in his life.

#### HONORING NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2010*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today during National Peace Corps week to honor the immeasurable contributions of the 200,000 Americans who have volunteered to serve in 139 countries in the cause of peace since 1961. Through mutual respect and un-

derstanding, these men and women have committed themselves to improving our country's relationships with the rest of the world, and I applaud their dedication to communities around the globe.

When President John F. Kennedy created the Peace Corps 49 years ago, he set out to provide ordinary men and women with an opportunity to strengthen developing countries devastated by the effects of poverty, disease, and war. Volunteers have come from all walks of life, some with years of experience and some just out of college.

Peace Corps volunteers have mobilized to combat some of the world's most urgent humanitarian crises, including providing crucial assistance to communities in need of post-conflict relief and reconstruction as well as countries overwhelmed by natural disasters. These men and women have helped economically depressed communities develop new business plans, struggling farmers improve their crop production, and families devastated by HIV/AIDS receive the care they need.

Currently, volunteers are serving in 76 countries, providing development assistance while fostering new bonds of friendship and seeking common ways to address global challenges. Over 400 men and women have volunteered from California's Sixth District, including the following current volunteers: Chase Adam, Samantha Atkins, Gail Bachman, Ashley Baker, Elizabeth Bremner, Alicea Cock-Esteb, Rebecca Como, Lindsay Crawford, Douglas Cruickshank, Jed D'Abrevanel, Catherine Fabiano, Scott Fergus, David Gomez, Stevie Greenwell, Daniel Grinnell, James Gurney, Peter Hoge, David Hughes, Matthew Ingalls, Christina Long, Ryan Loughlin, Mary McQuilkin, Reid Miller, Courtenay Pinder, Ryan Reichert, Rickey Russell, Nur-Aliyya Shelley, Robin Smith, Jessica Wright, and Pat Wrobel-Dickens.

Madam Speaker, the 49th anniversary of the establishment of the Peace Corps is an achievement that we should all commemorate. I celebrate the leadership and accomplishments of these compassionate Americans who have committed themselves to promoting global peace, diplomacy, and understanding.

#### RECOGNIZING PERSECUTION OF FALUN GONG

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2010*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 605, a resolution recognizing the continued persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in China on the 10th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party campaign to suppress the Falun Gong spiritual movement. The resolution also calls for an immediate end to the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.

The Chinese government's abuse of the Falun Gong is well-documented. The State Department's annual International Religious Freedom Report, found that the Government of China, "continued to restrict severely the activities of groups it designated as 'evil religions,' including several Christian groups and Falun Gong. . . . There are reports that dedicated government offices were responsible for coordinating operations against Falun Gong."

Just last week, the State Department released its annual Human Rights Report which included numerous examples of the Chinese government's persecution of the Falun Gong including the following: "Family members of activists, dissidents, Falun Gong practitioners, journalists, unregistered religious figures, and former political prisoners were targeted for arbitrary arrest, detention, and harassment." The report continued, "Police continued to detain current and former Falun Gong practitioners and used possession of Falun Gong material as a pretext for arresting political activists. The government continued its use of high-pressure tactics and mandatory anti-Falun Gong study sessions to force practitioners to renounce Falun Gong."

Among the most notorious human rights abuses of the Chinese government last year was the arrest and subsequent disappearance of top Christian human rights attorney, Gao Zhisheng. Gao had defended house church Christians and Falun Gong members which earned the ire of the government. According to the State Department, "At year's end his whereabouts remained unconfirmed . . ." Prior to his arrest Gao had published a letter in which he went into great detail about the torture he experienced during his previous detention. Gao has paid dearly for his defense of basic human rights including those of Falun Gong practitioners.

China has become increasingly brazen in its human rights abuses. In the face of this repression, America has a responsibility to continually affirm that we stand with the defenseless—with those whose voices have been silenced. President Reagan understood this well. He famously described the U.S. Constitution as a covenant we have made not only with ourselves but with all of mankind. This Congress and this administration must be unwavering in our support of all persecuted peoples, be they Coptic Christians in Egypt, Bahá'is in Iran or Falun Gong in China.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX COUNTY FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME HONOREES

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fairfax County Youth Football League and to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame.

The importance of youth sports cannot be overstated. Participation in organized sports teaches our youth many lessons that will serve them well throughout life. These invaluable lessons include sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, a sense of belonging, and maybe most importantly, the work ethic instilled by striving for success and working to achieve a common goal. Organized youth sports also contributes to our society; studies have shown a correlation between participation in sporting activities and doing well in school. Some studies indicate that reduction in gang activity can be partially attributed to refocusing at risk youth into organized, supervised activities such as youth sports.

I applaud the Fairfax County Youth Football League for the opportunities that they provide